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OCT 16 2001
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10/16/01
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
GROUP 1731
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Pierre RIPOCHE, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/519,847

Confirmation No.: Not Assigned

Group Art Unit: 1731

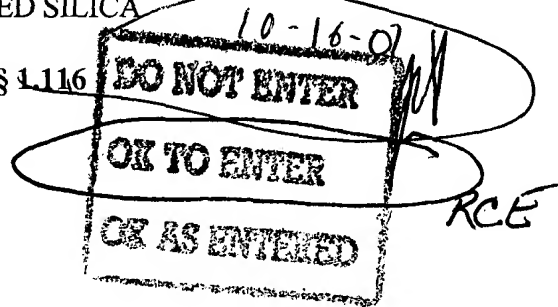
Filed: March 06, 2000

Examiner: J. HOFFMAN

For: METHOD OF FABRICATING AN OPTICAL FIBER PREFORM INCLUDING
OUTSIDE DEPOSITION OF SILICA, POSSIBLY DOPED SILICA

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

ATTN: BOX AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 13, 2001 please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of fabricating an optical fiber preform including a step of outside deposition of silica possibly doped with at least one dopant by injecting at least one substance in the form of silica or a precursor of silica in the vicinity of a heating area created by heating means during at least one pass of said heating means and an injector means associated with said heating means along a longitudinal axis of said preform, during which the relative positions of said injector means and said heating means are adjusted with respect to each other, so that said silica is deposited in said heated area regardless of the position of said heating means.